(c) Post Offices are opened on norm based justification subject to availability of resources and targets.

Funds Allocation to Orissa for Rural Sanitation

3703. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the allocation made to Orissa under the Central Rural Sanitation Programme during 1996-97 and 1997-98 till date indicating the amount actually utilized by the State Government so far;

(b) whether the State Government has sought additional allocation under the said programme; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI KINJARAPPU YARRANNAIDU) : (a) The allocation of funds under Centrally Sponsored Rural Sanitation Programme to Orissa and the expenditure during 1996-97 and 1997-98 are as under :

(Rs. in lakhs)

Year	Allocation	Expenditure
1996-97	241.00	302.60
1997-98	451.17	Nil

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Construction of Road-under Bridge at Hubli

3704. SHRI VIJAY SANKESHWAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways propose to construct road under bridge near Ashok Nagar level crossing at Hubli in Karnataka;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) the steps taken to expedite above project ; and

(d) the time by which above bridge is likely to be made operational?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The work has already been sanctioned and detailed estimate has been prepared. Estimate for approaches is awaited from the Municipal Corporation of Hubli - Dharwad.

(d) Work will be taken up when necessary funds are made available by Hubli-Dharwad Municipal Corporation.

[Translation]

Broadcast of Modern Technique in Agriculture Sector

3705. SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to formulate a comprehensive scheme for broadcast of the information regarding obtaining maximum yield by using modern technique and scientific method in agriculture sector and with a view to earning more profit through food processing and removing unemployment thereby;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY) : (a) to (c) All AIR Stations have already fixed time slots every day for dissemination of information regarding modern techniques and Scientific methods of agriculture and the benefits they entail. These programmes are broadcast in local languages/dialects. In the recent years, special programmes called "Farm Schools" have been introduced over All India radio. These programmes are planned in collaboration with experts from agriculture Universities with active participation of listeners.

[English]

Modernisation of Indian Railways

3706. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken any step for modernisation of Indian Railways during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the fund spent thereon during above period zone-wise;

(c) whether the Government have any proposal to draw any long term programme to modernise Indian Railways ; and

(d) if so the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) and (b) Modernisation of Railway system is an on-going process. In this regard Ministry of Railways has undertaken various steps indicated as under:

(i) *Computerisation & information system*

1. Automated reservation status enquiry through Interactive Voice Response System.
2. Reservation Availability Position Information Display (RAPID)
3. Networking of the five main computer systems,